

Message Text

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PAGE 01 NEW DE 12057 261320Z
ACTION OES-07

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
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FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: TECH, MNUC, IN, US
SUBJECT: INDO-US NUCLEAR ISSUE

REF: NEW DELHI 11990

1. AUGUST 25 SAMACHAR DISPATCH ON INDO-US NUCLEAR RELATIONS,
WHICH GAVE DISTORTED VERSION OF NYE VISIT AND PRESENT STATE OF
OUR NEGOTIATIONS WITH GOI ON PROLIFERATION ISSUE,
TRIGGERED TWO UNHELPFUL EDITORIALS IN
NATIONAL PRESS THIS MORNING. AS COULD HAVE BEEN EXPECTED,
PRO-MOSCOW PATRIOT WEIGHTED IN WITH HEAVY HAND IN EDITORIAL TITLED
"DOUBLE DEALER". EDIT'S OPENING SENTENCE BEGIN QUOTE: THE
SHAMELESS BREACH OF CONTRACT BY THE US ADMINISTRATION HAS BEEN
COMPOUNDED BY THE FALSE HOPES ITS REPRESENTATIVES AROUSED IN
INDIA, ONLY TO BREAK THEIR PROMISES AGAIN. UNQUOTE, GIVES
THE FLAVOR OF THE VITUPERATIVE CONDEMNATION OF THE US WHICH
FOLLOWS. MORE SERIOUS, BECAUSE IT APPEARS IN A RESPONSIBLE
JOURNAL WHOSE OPINION ON SUCH MATTERS WILL BE READ WITH GREATER
CARE, IS THE TIMES OF INDIA'S LEAD EDIT "NO SURRENDER".
- TEXT OF THIS FOLLOWS:

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BEGIN TEXT:

MR. JOSEPH NYE HAS APPARENTLY FAILED IN HIS MISSION
TO INDIA. HE HAS NOT BEEN ABLE TO "PERSUADE" THE INDIAN GOVT
AND EXPERTS THAT THE PRESENT US POLICY IS THE ONLY EFFECTIVE
WAY TO STOP THE POSSIBLE SPREAD OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS. BUT THAT
IS NOT THE END OF THE MATTER. MR. NYE OR SOMEONE ELSE WILL BE

COMING TO THIS COUNTRY WELL BEFORE THE END OF THE YEAR TO REACH AN "AGREEMENT" SO THAT THE US CAN CONTINUE TO FULFILL ITS CONTRACTUAL OBLIGATION FOR THE SUPPLY OF ENRICHED URANIUM FOR THE TARAPUR PLANT. BUT THE PROPOSED "AGREEMENT" IS NO MORE THAN AN EUPHEMISM FOR SURRENDER TO WASHINGTON. ITS TERMS ARE, AT LEAST RIGHT NOW, NOT OPEN TO DISCUSSION. IN ITS NEWLY REDISCOVERED IMPERIAL ROLE AS THE WORLD'S GENDARMERIE THE US ADMINISTRATION HAS LAID DOWN THAT IF THIS COUNTRY WANTS TO BE ASSURED OF THE SUPPLY OF ENRICHED URANIUM, IT MUST ACCEPT INTERNATIONAL INSPECTION NOT ONLY FOR THE NUCLEAR FACILITIES WHICH IT HAS BUILT WITH THE HELP AND COOPERATION OF OTHER NATIONS BUT ALSO FOR THOSE WHICH IT HAS PUT UP COMPLETELY ON ITS OWN. IT IS NOT GOOD ENOUGH FOR PRESIDENT CARTER THAT MR. MORARJI DESAI HAS GIVEN A SOLEMN ASSURANCE THAT INDIA WILL NOT HOLD ANOTHER NUCLEAR TEST IN SECRET EVEN FOR PEACEFUL PURPOSES. HE WANTS TO DENY THIS COUNTRY AN OPTION IN THIS MATTER FOR ALL TIME AND REGARDS IT NECESSARY FOR THIS PURPOSE TO SUBJECT ALL OF ITS NUCLEAR INSTALLATIONS TO EXTERNAL SUPERVISION AND THEREFORE CONTROL.

IT WILL NOT BE WHOLLY IMPERTINENT TO REMIND PRESIDENT CARTER THAT HIS COUNTRY HAS NO EXCUSE TO RENEGE ON ITS CONTRACTUAL OBLIGATION TO SUPPLY ENRICHED URANIUM FOR THE TARAPUR PLANT SINCE INDIA HAS SCRUPULOUSLY FULFILLED THE TWO STIPULATIONS LAID DOWN BY WASHINGTON AT THE TIME OF THE CONCLUSION OF THE DEAL IN THE EARLY SIXTIES. NEW DELHI HAS SIGNED AN AGREEMENT WITH THE INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY AUTHORISING IT TO INSPECT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TARAPUR, AND IT HAS NOT DIVERTED ANY FISSIONABLE MATERIAL FROM THIS PLANT FOR THE MANUFACTURE OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS. WASHINGTON ITSELF HAS REPEATEDLY ACKNOWLEDGED THAT THIS IS SO. INDEED, RIGHT NOW INDIA IS WILLING TO TURN OVER TO AMERICA THE USED FUEL RODS AND DENY ITSELF THE PLUTONIUM THEY CAN YIELD ON BEING REPROCESSED. IF THERE IS A CONFLICT IT IS BETWEEN AMERICA'S IMPERIAL AMBITIONS TO ORDER THE WORLD AND INDIA'S NATIONAL SELF-RESPECT AND INTERESTS. UNLESS WISER COUNSELS PREVAIL IN WASHINGTON, NEW DELHI MAY HAVE TO DO WITHOUT THE SUPPLY OF ENRICHED URANIUM FROM THE UNITED STATES. FOR, WHATEVER THE COST, IT CANNOT AFFORD TO SURRENDER TO THOROUGHLY UNREASONABLE AND UNJUST DEMANDS. END TEXT.

2. COMMENT: WE UNDERSTAND THAT SAMACHAR PIECE WAS WRITTEN BY NEWS AGENCY'S GENERAL SCIENCE WRITER BUT HAVE NOT YET BEEN ABLE TO ESTABLISH WHAT INTERESTED SOURCES PROVIDED HIM THE DISTORTED ACCOUNT OF THE STATE OF INDO-US NUCLEAR PLAY HE DRAFTED. GOHEEN

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Message Attributes

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Sent Date: 26-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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